SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

September 2005 vol. 5

"Your mind is like a parachute, it doesn't work if it's not open." Frank Zappa



It was Monday morning and I had gotten to work early. It was a beautiful crisp morning with the sun still hanging low. I walked from the parking lot to the building ensuring that I crossed the road at the crosswalk like I always did. I stepped out into the crosswalk and...BLAM...I was struck by a car.

And I was in the "right".....or was I?



This fictitious lead-in is not far from the truth. These last few weeks have seen several close calls reported involving vehicles vs. pedestrians. Was the person in the story "in the right"? Most people would say yes. We've been taught that the "pedestrian has the right of way" but

Florida Statute Title XXIII Chapter 316.130 (8) - "No pedestrian shall suddenly leave the curb or other place of safety and walk or run in the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield."

Pedestrians

- Cross at crosswalks, otherwise yield to traffic
- Use extra caution during reduced visibility or low-light conditions
- Let drivers know your intentions, wave them on if you plan on letting them pass before you cross
- Cross roadways at right angles, don't cut across diagonally

Drivers

- Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Slow down or stop if necessary.
- Slow down while going through pedestrian congested areas.
- Be aware of pedestrians in and around the roads' edge.
- Expect the unexpected and respect the pedestrians' right to be able to cross the road safely.

No matter which side of the windshield you are on.... Be Aware, Be Courteous, and Be Respectful.

This weeks Question Q) Why did the chicken cross the road?

Last Month's Answer A) One gallon of gas can be equivalent to 83 pounds of TNT.



Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite Davis at 867-8520, fax number 867-1120, mail code SA-E or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. <u>Safety on the Line</u> is also on the Web at http://sotl.ksc.nasa.gov.